

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4279

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJECT: CANADIAN PROPOSAL FOR NATO CONSULTATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND CSCE

REF: USNATO 5795

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FOR EUR/RPM

FROM USDEL CSCE

1. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY USNATO IN REFTEL.
U.S. EFFORTS DURING RECENT MONTHS TO BRING ABOUT DISCUSSION
IN NATO OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WHICH WILL BE POSED DURING THE

BELGRADE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION NEXT FALL HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO MEET THE NEED WHICH THE CANADIANS HAVE NOW ALSO SENSED. WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO STIMULATE ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FOR THE FALL MEETING, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON HOW THE WEST SHOULD DEAL WITH THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLE AND BASKET III.

2. OUR CONTACTS WITH ALLIED DELEGATIONS HERE REFLECT THE SAME ANXIETIES AS CANADIANS HAVE EXPRESSED IN NATO, BUT FOR PRACTICAL REASONS, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT PRESENT TO UNDERTAKE CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE NATO DELEGATIONS IN BELGRADE ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FOR THE MAIN MEETING. DELEGATIONS ARE SMALL AND SPECIALIZED, SECURE DISCUSSION AREAS ARE INADEQUATE, AND THERE IS NO SECRETARIAT TO RECORD CONSENSUS OF VIEWS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING PROBLEMS SURROUNDING REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SENSITIVE PARTS OF THE FINAL ACT, AND HAVE GLEANED SOME INSIGHTS FROM OUR INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH ALLIED REPS. BASED ON OUR CONTACTS HERE, WE BELIEVE THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF BASKET III WILL BE LESS POLEMICAL THAN DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLE BECAUSE THE PROVISIONS OF BASKET III ARE MORE SPECIFIC. THE ISSUES ARE SUFFICIENTLY WELL DEFINED, AND THERE IS EVIDENCE OF CERTAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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LIMITED PROGRESS. WE BELIEVE A FATAL APPROACH TO THE REVIEW WILL BE ADEQUATE HERE; THE FACTS WILL SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

4. IT IS IN THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THAT WE RISK THE PITFALLS IDENTIFIED BY THE CANADIANS AT NATO. HERE, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER A RATHER CONCEPTUAL APPROACH TO THE REVIEW: STRESSING OUR CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FORCING THE SOVIETS TO DEFEND THEIRS. WE COULD, UNDER SUCH AN APPROACH, REFER TO WELL-KNOWN INDIVIDUAL CASES, SUCH AS SCHARANSKY (SCHARANSKY COULD, OF COURSE, ALSO BE CITED AS A FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASE UNDER BASKET III.) WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR DESIRABLE TO AVOID SUCH REFERENCES. CITATION OF SPECIFIC CASES COULD BE USED, AS DURING THE RECENT NBC-TV DEBATE BETWEEN U.S. AND SOVIET CITIZENS, TO BOLSTER OUR CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO CITE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD IN OUR OWN NATIONAL EXPERIENCE, AND OUR EFFORTS TO REMEDY THESE PROBLEMS. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD DEMONSTRATE THE STRENGTH OF WESTERN IDEALS WITHOUT

BEING SO OFFENSIVE TO THE SOVIETS AS TO BE COUNTER-
PRODUCTIVE.
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